

## Operating Assistance & Project Development Grants

---

### **What type of operating grants may be eligible?**

Operating assistance usually consists of activities and services that are directly provided or purchased by the applicant. The project funds may be used for labor and benefits, supplies and fuel, insurance, rent and utilities, purchased services and contracts, and maintenance costs.

The operating grant funds may not be used for depreciation on vehicles purchased with federal or state dollars, or costs associated with expenses incurred for timeframes outside of the grant period (such as pre-paid insurance payments).

Examples of operating grants include:

- Operating assistance for rural public transportation services
- Operating assistance for special needs transportation/paratransit services

There are also three other requirements for eligibility:

- A single service area for project assistance may include multiple counties only if those counties have common borders.
- An open door public access policy must be maintained to the maximum extent possible for public transportation operating assistance.
- The assistance must be added to existing transportation resources and not displace those moneys.

### **What type of development projects may be eligible?**

The consolidated grant program may be able to consider project development applications. Examples could include:

- Local or regional marketing plan for intercity bus, special needs, or rural public transportation
- Development of a local or regional coordination plan (RCW 47.06B)
- Agency financial and operating plan
- Updating Comprehensive Transportation Plan

The focus of the consolidated competitive grant program will be on the implementation and delivery of projects. For this reason, no more than 20 percent of the total funding will be granted to development projects.